

## Appendix E.

(Chapter VIII.)

## APPENDIX B. (See Rule 11.)

## Forms of Sanads for Revenue-free grants of land for Religious or Charitable purposes.

## FORM No. 1.

To *A. B.*

Whereas Government have been pleased to grant to you, *A. B.*, the below-mentioned piece of land situated in the village of \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_ taluka of the \_\_\_\_\_ district, for the

purpose of\*

revenue-free (namely)—

All that piece of land bounded on the North by \_\_\_\_\_, on the South by \_\_\_\_\_, on the East by \_\_\_\_\_, and on the West by \_\_\_\_\_, and measuring from North to South \_\_\_\_\_ and from East to West \_\_\_\_\_ comprising \_\_\_\_\_ square \_\_\_\_\_ in superficial area, and numbered No. \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_

It is hereby declared that the said land shall be continued for ever free of all claim on the part of Government for rent or land revenue to whoever shall from time to time be the lawful holder or manager of the said

on the condition that neither the said land nor any building erected thereupon shall at any time, without the express consent of Government, be diverted either temporarily or permanently to any other than the aforesaid purpose, and that no change or modification shall be made of the object for which the said \_\_\_\_\_ is founded, and that in the event of any such unauthorized diversion, change, or modification being made, it shall be lawful for Government, on causing six months' previous notice in writing to be given to the said holder or manager, to take either of the two following courses (namely), either—

(1) to require that the said land be vacated and delivered up to Government free of all claims or incumbrances of any person whatsoever, or

(2) to impose thenceforward such annual rent for the occupation of the said land until the same is vacated and delivered over to Government as to Government shall seem fit, which said rent shall be recoverable under the law at the time in force for recovering an arrear of land revenue.

This grant is made subject to the reservation of the right of the Secretary of State for India in Council to all mines and mineral products and of full liberty of access for the purpose of working and searching for the same, with all reasonable conveniences.

\* The purpose and the extent of the public interest in it should be clearly set forth, as, for instance, "building a dhārmshāla for the free and unrestricted use of all classes of the community."

This sanad is executed on behalf of the Secretary of State for India in Council by order of His Excellency the Governor in Council of Bombay, by the Collector of  
 , this day of 18



(Signed)

Collector.

## FORM No. II.

To .

A. B.

Whereas, in consideration of your having built (or undertaken to build, *as the case may be*), a temple, with a dharmshala annexed thereto, for the use of the Hindu community (*or otherwise as the case may be*) on the piece of land hereinafter mentioned, which is your property (or which has been granted to you by Government for this purpose, *as the case may be*), Government have been pleased, at your request, to exempt the said piece of land from liability to rent or land revenue.

It is hereby declared that so long as the said piece of land continues to be devoted to the purpose aforesaid, it shall be continued free of all claim on the part of Government for rent or land revenue to whoever shall from time to time be the lawful holder or manager of the said temple and its appurtenances (*or otherwise as the case may be*).

The piece of land herein referred to is situated in the village of \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_ taluka of \_\_\_\_\_ district, and is bounded on the North by \_\_\_\_\_, on the South by \_\_\_\_\_, on the East by \_\_\_\_\_, and on the West by \_\_\_\_\_, and comprises about \_\_\_\_\_ square \_\_\_\_\_ in superficial area, be the same more or less, and is numbered No. \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_

\*This grant is made subject to the reservation of the right of the Secretary of State for India in Council to all mines and mineral products, and of full liberty of access for the purpose of working and searching for the same with all reasonable conveniences.

This sanad is executed on behalf of the Secretary of State for India in Council by order of His Excellency the Governor in Council of Bombay, by the Collector of

this day of

18 .



(Signed)

Collector.

\* This clause is to be inserted only when the land is being granted under the sanad.

## APPENDIX C. (See Rule 27.)

Form of Agreement for exchange to be executed by  
villagers removing to a new village-site.

† AGREEMENT executed the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 18 \_\_\_\_\_ by  
A., B., \_\_\_\_\_ resident of \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_  
Taluka of the \_\_\_\_\_ District.

WHEREAS Government have been pleased to sanction a change  
being made in the position of the site of the village of  
in the Registration Sub-District of \_\_\_\_\_

of the \_\_\_\_\_ District, and in pursuance of such  
sanction the following plot of ground has been allotted to me in the  
new site in exchange for the ground held by me in the old site,  
namely, the piece of land bounded as follows, that is to say, on the  
North by \_\_\_\_\_, on the South by \_\_\_\_\_, on the  
East by \_\_\_\_\_, on the  
West by \_\_\_\_\_, measuring \_\_\_\_\_ in length  
from North to South, \_\_\_\_\_ and  
\_\_\_\_\_ in width from East to West, and comprising  
about \_\_\_\_\_ square \_\_\_\_\_ in superficial area  
and numbered No. \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_

I do hereby agree, in consideration of the allotment to me of the  
new piece of land aforesaid, as follows (namely) :—

(1) That all my right, title and interest in any land  
whatsoever, situate within the old site of the said village, shall  
be deemed to be, and is hereby, surrendered to Government,  
together with the trees standing thereon, and all rights over or  
other benefits arising out of, or enjoyed by me in respect of the  
said land ;

(2) That I shall hold the piece of land aforesaid in the  
new site from the date of this agreement as the occupant of  
the same, free of land revenue for such period as Government  
may be pleased to continue such exemption, but subject never-  
theless to the payment of land revenue of such amount, if any,  
as may hereafter at any time, or from time to time, be lawfully  
imposed under the orders of Government thereupon.

In witness whereof I have hereto set my hand the day and  
year aforesaid.

Written by \_\_\_\_\_

(Signed) A. B.

Signed and delivered by \_\_\_\_\_ in our presence  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

† The proper stamp-duty for this agreement is four annas. See Act I. of  
1879, Schedule I, Art. 5 (b).

## APPENDIX D. (See Rules 32 and 75.)

## Form of Agreement to be passed by persons intending to become registered occupants.

## \*AGREEMENT.

To the Mámlatdár (or Múhálkari) of

I, *A. B.*, inhabitant of \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_ District, Taluka of the \_\_\_\_\_ hereby accept, on behalf of myself and of my co-occupants, present and future, the occupancy of the land comprised in Survey No. \_\_\_\_\_ (*or of the building site hereinbelow described, or otherwise as the case may be,*) in the village of \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_ Taluka of the \_\_\_\_\_ District, and I pray that my name be entered in the Government records as the registered occupant of the said land.

The said occupancy has been granted to me subject to the provisions of the Bombay Land Revenue Code, 1879, and of the rules in force thereunder, in perpetuity (*or for the period of, as the case may be,*) from the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 18 \_\_\_\_;† and I undertake to pay the land revenue from time to time lawfully due in respect of the said occupancy (*or I undertake, whenever Government shall see fit to discontinue the exemption of the said land from payment of land revenue, to pay such revenue as may be lawfully imposed, under the orders of Government, thereupon, or otherwise as the case may be.*)

Dated the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 18 \_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_

Written by \_\_\_\_\_ (Signed) *A. B.*

We declare that *A. B.*, who has signed this agreement, is, to our personal knowledge, the person he represents himself to be, and that he has affixed his signature hereto in our presence.

(Signed) *C. D.**E. F.*

‡ We declare that to the best of our knowledge and from the best information we have been able, after careful inquiry, to obtain, the person who has passed this agreement is a fit person to be accepted by Government as responsible for the punctual payment of the land revenue from time to time due on the above land.

(Signed) *G. H.*, Patel.*J. J.*, Village Accountant.

\* This agreement is exempt from stamp-duty under the Government of India's Notification No. 2327 of 4th August 1880. (*Bombay Government Gazette* for 1880, p. 706.)

† When an occupancy is sold for a fixed period free of land revenue, the agreement should end here, and the second endorsement may be omitted.

‡ This endorsement is to be required only when the agreement is given under Rule 32.



## APPENDIX G. (See Rule 74.)

## Form of Notice\* of Relinquishment.

No. 1. † *Absolute Relinquishment.*

To the Mámlatdár (or Mahálkari) of

I, *A. B.*, inhabitant of in the

táluka of the

district the registered occupant of Survey No.

the building-site hereinbelow described (*or otherwise as the case may be*), in the village of in the tálukaof the district, hereby give notice, under section 74 of the Bombay Land Revenue Code, 1879, that it is my intention to relinquish absolutely the occupancy of the said Survey No. (*or building-site, &c.,*) at the end of the current year.

Dated this day of 18 at

Written by (Signed) *A. B.*

We declare that *A. B.*, who has signed this notice, is, to our personal knowledge, the person he represents himself to be, and that he has affixed his signature hereto in our presence.

(Signed) *E. F.*  
*G. H.*

No. 2. *Relinquishment in favour of some other person.*

To the Mámlatdár (or Mahálkari) of

I, *A. B.*, inhabitant of in the táluka of the district, the registered occupant of Survey No. (*or of the building-site hereinbelow described, or otherwise as the case may be,*) in the village of in the táluka of the district, hereby give notice, under section 74 of the Bombay Land Revenue Code, 1879, that I have relinquished the occupancy of the said Survey No. (*or building-site, &c.,*) in favour of *C. D.*, inhabitant of in the táluka of the district; and I request that the necessary mutation of names be made in the records.

Dated this day of 18, at

Written by (Signed) *A. B.*

We declare that *A. B.*, who has signed this notice, is to our personal knowledge, the person he represents himself to be, and that he has affixed his signature hereto in our presence.

(Signed) *E. F.*  
*G. H.*

\* The Court-fee payable on these notices has been remitted. (*Vide* Government of India's Notification No. 3421, in the *Bombay Government Gazette* of 28th December 1876, page 1230.)

† These notices must be given before the 31st March, or such other date as Government prescribe, under section 74, for each district.



the purpose of providing funds for expenditure on objects of local public utility and improvement.

4. The Government rights to trees standing in lands which are now occupied, is hereby conceded to the occupants thereof, subject to the general exceptions entered in the margin§ and the special exceptions recorded in the settlement records.

## APPENDIX K.

## REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

The following Resolution by the Government of India is published in supersession of the Rules notified in the *Bombay Government Gazette*, dated 21st September 1871, page 1014:—

“No.  $\frac{1}{142}$

*Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of India in the Department of Agriculture, Revenue and Commerce, dated Fort William, the 6th February 1872.*

## [LAND REVENUE AND SETTLEMENTS.]

Read again—

Financial Department Resolution No. 557, dated 25th January 1870.

Home Department Circular Resolution No. 229-39, dated 27th April 1870.

Financial Department Resolution No. 1452, dated 23rd June 1870.

Home Department Circular No. 427-36, dated 4th July 1870.

## RESOLUTION.

In the Resolutions quoted above it was ruled that the sanction of the Government of India should be obtained to the alienation of all Government land, whether actually paying revenue or not, except grants of waste land made under the approved rules, and that Government land, whether paying revenue or not, should not be parted with save under the rules applicable to the expenditure of public money. It was also laid down that if the sale of small plots of escheated land for the benefit of local funds has not been duly sanctioned, it must be considered subject to the above restrictions.

2. Several local Governments and Administrations having represented the inconveniences arising from a strict adherence to these orders, the Governor General in Council has been pleased to modify them as follows:—

3. Lands to be disposed of will necessarily divide themselves into two classes:

*First*—Those which are the property of the State;

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§ The names of reserved trees are to be specified in the margin.



*Second*—Those which, under competent authority, have been constituted the property of a municipality or other local body.

4. Lands of the first class may be disposed of in various ways—

*First*—By sale at full market value ;

*Second*—By sale on favourable terms—

to a public body or association, or to an individual, for a public purpose ;

*Third*—By gift or grant to—

(a) a public body or association, or to an individual for a public purpose ;

(b) private individuals in remuneration for public services to be performed ;

(c) private individuals for their private benefit, without reference to future services.

5. As regards lands falling into the second of the above classes, which have been, under a competent authority, constituted the property of a local body, the Government of India will exercise no interference. It will be the duty of local Governments and Administrations to satisfy themselves that the lands in question have been transferred under proper authority, and this having been ascertained, the sanction of the local Government or Administration will be sufficient for the disposal of the lands.

6. As regards lands, the property of the State, such of them as are governed by the rules for the grant of waste lands, will continue to be dealt with under the rules on this subject in force for the time being.

7. As regards lands, the property of the State, other than waste lands, which are sold for full value, no reference to the Government of India need be made where the full value does not exceed Rs. 10,000. Up to this amount the sanction of the local Government or Administration will in all cases be sufficient. The amount realized by the sale of the land should invariably be credited to the general revenues, and the sale should be duly noticed in the proceedings of the local Government or Administration.

8. As regards the sale of lands on favourable terms, for a public purpose, in no case should the recipient pay less than half the full market value of the lands granted ; and whenever such full value exceeds the sum of Rs. 1,000, the sanction of the Government of India should be previously obtained. The amount realized by the sale should in all cases be credited to the general revenues, and the sale should be noticed in the proceedings of the local Government or Administration.

9. As regards the gift or grant of lands, the previous sanction of the Government of India should be obtained in cases where the

value of the grant exceeds Rs. 3,000, when given as a site for the construction of Government schools, hospitals, dispensaries, or other public works, at the cost of recognized local funds; where it exceeds Rs. 500, when given for any other public purpose, or to a private individual for services to be performed to the State,\* or where it exceeds Rs. 100 when the services are to

be performed to the community; and in all cases of grants to individuals for their private benefit irrespective of any services to be performed.

## APPENDIX L.

No. 5215.

*Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of Bombay in the Revenue Department, dated 29th September 1879.*

Read the following letter from the Secretary to the Government of India, Home, Revenue and Agricultural Department, No. 2—11, dated 1st September 1879:—

In continuation of my circular Nos. 40 to 49, dated the 14th August 1871, making certain enquiries in regard to the mineral rights of Government, I am desired to forward, for the information of His Excellency the Governor in Council, a copy of the Proceedings of this Department for August 1872, Nos. 26 to 37, and of the marginally noted correspondence with the Government of Madras and the Solicitor to Government.

From the Government of Madras, No. 847, dated the 27th February 1877, and enclosures.

From the Government of Madras, No. 320, dated the 23rd January 1877, and enclosures.

To the Solicitor to Government, No. 1481, dated 5th December 1878.

Reply No. 83, dated 30th January 1879, and enclosures.

Despatch to the Secretary of State, No. 7, dated the 1st September 1879.

2. I am to explain that, on consideration of the papers which are recorded in the Proceedings for August 1872, it appeared that no immediate action was necessary, unless Government had been prepared to resort to legislation—a course the desirability of which did not seem to be sufficiently established at that time. No general legislative measure is now in contemplation, nor is it intended to institute in the Bombay Presidency any special enquiry as to the State's rights to minerals, unless, at any time, circumstances should arise which should render such an enquiry indispensable in the interests of those exclusive pre-eminent powers which belong to the State as representing the community at large. Such powers it is all the more necessary carefully to guard when there is reason to believe that they may be valuable. It is therefore thought expedient now to direct attention to the matter, and to request, first,

that, subject to any instructions which may be received from the Secretary of State in connection with the reference that has been made to him by the Government of Madras in all future grants and leases of Government waste land for cultivation in the Bombay Presidency, full rights may be reserved to Government in respect of all minerals which may be discovered in or under such land; and, secondly that, in all cases in which minerals may be discovered in any place where there is ground for the belief the Government may be entitled to them, or may have a right to assess them to land revenue, a full enquiry may be made and the result reported. Rights of way and other reasonable facilities for working, getting and carrying away such minerals as may be found should also be reserved on behalf of Government or the assignees of Government in deeds of sale and leases of waste lands.

3. Whenever it is found possible to do so, the right of Government to the minerals should be asserted and reserved in all future settlements; and if in any case this is not possible, then, in such settlements, the reservation should take the form of a right to put a separate assessment on mineral produce. This last direction, however, is of course subject to any special peculiarities which may exist in the local revenue system.

4. It will be understood that, except in so far as the precautions above directed require, it is not intended in any way to anticipate future events. Should any case similar to that of the gold discoveries in the Wynaad arise elsewhere, it can be dealt with, as it occurs, on the analogy of the instructions which Her Majesty's Secretary of State may be pleased to give on the despatch of the 1st current.

RESOLUTION.—The instructions of the Government of India should be communicated to the Commissioners of Divisions and the Commissioner of Survey for information and guidance.

#### GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

#### HOME, REVENUE, AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

#### *State rights in Minerals and Mining Leases.*

From the Government of India to the Secretary of State for India,—No. 7, dated Simla, the 1st September 1879.

We have now the honour to reply to your Lordship's despatches marginally noted, concerning the rights of the State in minerals, and the terms that should be imposed on gold-mining leases on Government lands in the Wynaad districts of Madras. There has been delay in coming to a decision on these points, because we were obliged to take legal advice on some of the questions raised, and because we desired to ascertain the policy recently adopted in Australia regarding mining leases in the gold-fields of that continent.

2. Regarding the State rights in minerals, three distinct questions had first to be considered, namely:—

- (1) whether the royal prerogative, as it obtains in England in respect to gold and silver mines, prevails in British India; and whether grantees of waste land are entitled to mines of gold and silver found thereunder, when the deed of grant is silent as to such mines;
- (2) whether, apart from such prerogative, the Crown in India can assert a right to gold, silver, or other minerals on any other ground;
- (3) whether, if both these questions are answered in the negative, the mineral resources of the land can be taken into account in assessing land-revenue.

3. The Madras Government, in their letter No. 320, dated 23rd January 1877, concurred with their Advocate General, and expressed an opinion that the royal prerogative regarding gold and silver mines did not prevail in India. They held that it would be impolitic, even if it were legally possible, to assert any Government right in the mineral resources of lands sold under the Waste-Land Sale Rules, or in lands held by certain ancient proprietors of the Malabar district. The Governor of Madras in Council advised also that the claims of ryots to the mineral wealth of their holdings should not be disturbed; and on this point His Grace in Council differed from the view expressed by the Madras Board of Revenue. The Madras Government pointed out that, if large numbers of gold-workers were to come to the mines, police and other expenses would be thrown on the Government, to meet which a reasonable royalty might properly be imposed. The Governor of Madras in Council also recommended that, until the policy of Government with reference to mineral rights in the soil was settled, all sales of Government land under the Waste-Land Sale Rules should be made subject to the reservation of the State rights in minerals found underneath those lands.

4. We referred the three questions stated in the second paragraph of this letter for the opinion of our Advocate General, of our Standing Counsel, and of one of the first lawyers in Calcutta. We submit copies of the opinions of these gentlemen for your Lordship's information. It will be seen that they all three agree that the prerogative of the Crown regarding gold and silver mines does not exist in India outside the presidency towns, and that grantees of waste land are entitled to mines of gold or silver found thereunder when the terms of the grant are silent as to such mines. While there is no doubt that all the prerogatives essential to the maintenance of the executive power, such as the right of making war, peace and treaties, are in force throughout British India, yet, as the right to mines of gold and silver is merely a fiscal prerogative, and is not essential to the maintenance of the executive power, it

stands precisely on the same footing as the prerogative rights to whales and sturgeon, wrecks, treasure trove, waifs and estrays—cases in which no one would maintain that the Crown has any right in India apart from express legislation. Such prerogatives, in fact, belong to that part of the English Common Law which has arisen from, and is adapted to, merely local requirements, and is not therefore in force in this country. Moreover, since the Indian Legislature, in the Punjab Land-Revenue Act (XXXIII. of 1871) section 29, thought it necessary to declare that in the Punjab mines of metal shall be deemed to be the property of Government, and since, by the Ajmere Land-Revenue Regulation (II. of 1877), section 3, the Government is, with certain exceptions, presumed to be the sole owner of all mines until the contrary is proved, it would be inconsistent to contend that the prerogative right to gold and silver mines exists in India, as if it did, there would have been no need for these express statutory provisions, or at least these particular metals would have been excluded in framing them. On these grounds, we consider that the opinion of the law officers may be finally accepted, and that whatever be the rights of the Government of India in the matter, no claim on the part of the State can be preferred on the ground of the prevalence in India of this royal prerogative outside the limits of the presidency towns. As to the right of grantees, the decisions in England are to the effect that mines of gold and silver will not pass by a grant from the Crown without express words granting them. We are, however, advised that the principle of such decisions is wholly inapplicable to India. When this principle was established in England, grants from the Crown of its land had the effect of impoverishing the Crown, being made from favour and without consideration moving from the grantee. But in India such grants have, it is believed, usually been made in consideration of a money payment, and have therefore had the effect of enriching the Crown. We are aware that this argument was used unsuccessfully before the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council in the case of *Woolley vs. The Attorney General of Victoria*, Law Reports, 2 App., Ca. 163, 165. But the reason why it failed was that the Common Law of England (including all the prerogatives and the consequences thereof) had been introduced into the Colony of Victoria, from which that appeal was presented. No such introduction, it is conceived, can be held to have taken place in this ceded and conquered country. The reason why in England grants from the Crown are construed strictly against the grantee is generally said to be that prerogatives are conferred on the Crown for public use, and are therefore not to be understood as diminished by any grant beyond what it takes away by necessary and unavoidable construction. But where no such prerogative exists, of course that reason ceases. We therefore consider that grantees of waste lands (whether or not the grants expressly comprise "all products both above and below the surface") are, in the absence of any provi-

sion to the contrary, entitled to mines of gold and silver found thereunder.

5. In regard to the second question, whether the State possesses other general or special rights in minerals lying under lands which are private property, our Advocate General differs from the other two learned gentlemen who were consulted. Their opinions referred mainly to Bengal and the permanently-settled districts, with the circumstances of which they were conversant. Mr. Paul considers that the State has rights in the minerals found in permanently-settled estates; while Messrs. Bell and Evans think that the State does not possess such rights. We consider that the latter is the opinion most likely to be taken by the Courts. And we are confirmed in this view by the practice of the past twenty years, whereby the Government or any private parties who desired to work coal or iron within the limits of a permanently-settled estate have been obliged to buy, or at any rate have bought, the right of so doing from the Zamindár of the lands underneath which such coal or iron might exist. Regarding the circumstances of other provinces and the way in which State rights in minerals had been asserted or waived, enquiry was made from Local Governments in the year 1871. The replies to that enquiry are recorded in the Proceedings of the Revenue, Agriculture and Commerce Department for August 1872, Nos. 26 to 37, copies of which are now submitted for your Lordship's perusal. It appears from these papers that in most parts of the country no established law or practice was known upon the subject; and that, as no mines had been opened, no occasion had arisen to determine the rights of the State in respect to such property. In the North-Western Provinces, however, it had been ruled that, where the surface land had been declared private property, the ownership extended, in default of some distinct and special reservation, to what was below the surface. In newer provinces, on the other hand, such as the Punjab, there was no settled judicial precedent making mines and metal private property. And accordingly opportunity was taken to declare by legislation (section 2 of Act XXXIII of 1871) that mines of metal in the Punjab and also in Ajmere (section 3 of Regulation II. of 1877) should be deemed to be the property of Government. Similarly, in the Central Provinces, at the time when proprietary right in their lands was conferred upon the landholders, the full right of Government to minerals was reserved under the provisions of the Settlement Code. So also in Berar, a notification issued by the Resident in 1868 concerning the settlement then in progress declared that "the prior right to all valuable things below the surface belonged to the State."

6. On the third point, namely, whether minerals belonging to private proprietors can be taken into account in assessing the estates of those proprietors to land revenue, the Advocate General and the other learned gentlemen consulted are, in the main, agreed that when temporarily-settled estates come under resettlement, the minerals,

just like the other resources of such estates, constitute assets on which land-revenue may fairly be assessed. This practice has been already partially followed in provinces where miscellaneous items are reckoned into the village assets for the purposes of the assessment of land-revenue.

We have already noticed (paragraph 3 of this despatch) the views of the Madras Government and of the Madras Board of Revenue regarding the rights of ryots to all mines and minerals in their holdings. Seeing that different classes of tenure may be grouped under the generic term of 'ryotwari tenure,' we hesitate finally to accept, without further enquiry, the view that all holders of ryotwari lands are entitled to all mines and minerals under the holdings. Probably the *jennies* of Malabar; whose tenure is ancient, may be so entitled. But we shall ask the Madras Government to consider further the question of the rights of ordinary ryots in the minerals under their holdings.

7. Such being the opinions of the Law officers, and such being the reports or recommendations of the several Local Governments, we would advise Your Lordship to answer the three questions summarised above (paragraph 2) thus:—

- (1) The Crown has in British India no special prerogative over gold and silver mines outside the presidency towns; and grantees of waste land are entitled to mines of gold or silver found thereunder when the deed of grant is silent as to such mines.
- (2) No general rule, applicable to all provinces, can properly be laid down, either that minerals and metals found in proprietary lands belong to Government, or that they do not so belong. Even in different parts of the same province, the law and the fact on this matter may be different. When the question arises in each province, it will have to be answered for that province only, in accordance with the practice of the Government and with judicial (or other) precedent. But in any province where proprietary rights have been a recent creation of the British Government, where their precise nature and extent are still unsettled, and where custom or practice about mines has not had time to grow up, advantage should be taken of favourable opportunity to declare by legislation that mines of metals in such provinces are State property.
- (3) Mineral resources of temporarily-settled lands, where the proprietors are held to be the owners of such resources, may be taken into account at any resettlement as assets on which the public demand for land-revenue may be assessed.

Further, we should have no hesitation in proposing legislation, if necessary, to provide for raising from mining communities

the expenses of special police, special communications, regulating the water-supply, or other special administrative arrangements which might be necessary for the protection or welfare of such communities. Such legislation would be in accordance with the principle adopted in section 14 of Act V. of 1861, where provision is made for enlisting special police for the protection of, and at the cost of, any manufactory or public work.

8. We have considered the proposal of the Madras Government that in future sales of waste lands the State should reserve full rights and property in all metals and minerals which may be found in such lands, and also all reasonable conveniences for working such minerals or metals, either by itself, or through other parties. We agree that it is expedient henceforward to sell or grant on lease waste lands subject to these reservations. We solicit your Lordship's sanction to our modifying the Waste-Land Sale Rules accordingly; and we enclose copy of a circular order we have issued, directing that, until your Lordship's orders are received, sales or leases of waste lands shall be made subject to such reservation of full State rights in mines and minerals, together with all convenient powers for getting the same.

9. Lastly, there remains the practical question, which requires early decision, namely, on what terms shall mining leases on Government waste lands in the Wynaad, Coorg, or adjacent auriferous tracts be given. We recognise the fact that it is of great importance to India that these gold-sources should be worked to the best advantage; we admit that, if gold should be produced in large quantities, the effect of such production on the exchanges between England and India would be of great value; and we think that the terms as to royalty, area of mining leases, and the mode of working should be as liberal as may be possible without encouraging undue speculation. We learn from Mr. Brough Smyth that the most approved system of mining leases in Australia now is to let the land at a moderate rent (ten shillings) per acre, the lessee being bound to employ per acre, or per running yard of reef, a certain minimum quantity of labour on *bona fide* mining operations of an approved kind. If the lessee fails to fulfil this condition, he forfeits his lease; and the terms of the mining lease make the Governor of the Colony the final arbiter, on such evidence as may be laid before him, whether a particular lessee has, or has not, failed to fulfil the condition. In the early days of gold-mining industry in Australia, heavy fees (£3 and £2 per month) were charged for mining licences. Subsequently an export duty was levied on gold taken from the colony; but latterly the Colonial Government of Victoria has found that the largest indirect advantages to the Colony are secured by making the mining leases simple and liberal, subject to the one condition that a certain quantity of labour is employed on *bona fide* mining operations for each acre leased.



10. Plans for levying a royalty on the ton of quartz raised, or for establishing a local office of assay and levying a royalty on the gold, have been proposed. But we consider that, for the present, while the industry is undeveloped, our object should be to make the terms of mining leases of Government lands as simple and liberal as possible. In order to prevent large areas falling into the hands of speculators, it has been suggested that a certain limit of available capital, or a certain quantity of (stamping or other) machinery, should be required per acre of land leased. But we are advised that these conditions have been tried, and have been found inoperative and unsatisfactory in Australia, and that the simple condition that a certain quantity of labour shall be employed per acre in *bonâ fide* mining has been found to work best. For the present, therefore, we would propose to authorise the Government of Madras to grant gold-mining leases of Government lands, in lots of from one to thirty acres, for a term of ten to twenty years, at a rent of five rupees an acre, subject to the condition that not less than five labourers are regularly employed per acre on *bonâ fide* mining operations in such manner as the Government may approve. The leases should be liable to forfeiture on failure of this condition, or failure to pay rent, as soon as either failure had continued for a period of six months; and should be renewable, at the lessee's option, on such terms as the then Government may settle, at the expiration of the original term. The Governor of Madras in Council would be declared to be in each case the final arbiter, whether the lessee had, or had not, fulfilled the conditions of his lease.

We would propose thus to leave wide discretion to the Local Government with reference to the term of each lease and the area comprised therein. We do not propose to levy any royalty or other tax, for the present, on the industry, because we deem it most important to attract capital to the Wynnad gold-fields. The cost of bringing machinery for quartz crushing to the spot will be heavy; the pioneers of the undertaking will have to buy their experience in many directions; and it is very undesirable that the first ventures now to be made should be unsuccessful.

11. If your Lordship approves the foregoing sketch of the terms on which gold-mining leases of Government lands might be granted, we shall authorise the Government of Madras to act thereupon, and we shall cause draft leases to be drawn up by our legal advisers.

12. There is apparently ground for believing that some of the best gold reefs that are known in India lie in the estates of the Râja of Nellore, and of other private proprietors. The Alpha Gold Company's works were opened in the Nellore lands. As yet the Râja has made his own terms with companies intending to carry on gold-mining; and at present we are not prepared to urge the Madras Government to undertake legislation with a view of compelling

private landowners to give gold-mining leases on any particular terms, or against their will.

13. We shall be glad to be favoured with early instructions from your Lordship, not only on the subject of the terms on which mining leases should be granted in the Wynaad, but also on the three questions raised in paragraph 2 and answered in paragraph 7 of the present despatch. And we solicit your Lordship's confirmation of our orders directing that, in all future sales or agricultural leases of waste lands in any part of India, mines and minerals found on such lands shall be reserved to the State, together with all convenient powers for working and getting and carrying them away.

From the Secretary of State for India, to the Government of India,—No. 35 (Revenue—Minerals), dated India Office, London, the 25th March 1880.

I have considered in Council your letter, with accompaniments,\*

\* No. 7 (Home, Revenue and Agricultural Department) of 1st September 1879 dealing with the important questions of the general rights of the State to minerals in India, of modifications of the Waste-Land Rules necessary to secure these rights, and of the terms on which applications to mine in Government waste lands in auriferous tracts shall be complied with.

2 You point out that, regarding general State rights in minerals, three distinct questions have to be considered. In the first place, you hold, and I concur in your view, that the royal prerogative, as it obtains in England in respect to gold and silver mines, does not prevail in British India, at least outside the presidency towns. You proceed to infer that grantees of waste lands, whether or not the grants expressly comprise all products above and below the surface, are, in the absence of provision to the contrary, entitled to mines of gold and silver found thereunder. If this proposition be limited to grantees of waste lands "in fee simple" under the rules framed in different provinces in accordance with the instructions given by my predecessor, Sir C. Wood, in his despatch No. 14 of 1862, I do not dispute it. But I must point out that the expression "grantees of waste land" used without limitation, might be held to include persons who have received, under ordinary terms of settlement, the proprietary rights in lands formerly waste and unoccupied; and to such grantees this view does not apply.

3. As regards the second question, whether, apart from the prerogative, the Crown in India can assert a right to gold, silver, and other minerals found in proprietary lands, you are disposed to agree with Messrs. Bell and Evans that, in the permanently-settled districts, the State does not possess such right. This was the view arrived at by my predecessor, Sir C. Wood, after consideration of Mr. Miller's report, dated 26th March 1842. But, without weighing this opinion against that of your learned Advocate General, I am disposed to think that, even if the legal right to minerals in per-

manently-settled estates could be established, it would not be desirable to enforce it. I agree with you that the indirect advantages resulting from making available the mineral resources of India are likely to be more valuable to the State than any direct returns; and I therefore consider that it would not be desirable to enforce the right of the State, supposing that such right can be established, to mines in permanently-settled estates. Industries requiring skilled and scientific management, and the extensive application of capital, have flourished under the permanent settlement; and I apprehend that, speaking generally, the landholders of the Lower Provinces are sufficiently alive to their own interests either themselves to develop the mineral resources their estates may contain, or to afford facilities to others to do so.

4. This, however, does not apply to many other parts of India. I look upon it as pretty certain that the mineral resources of their lands will not be effectually worked by the peasant proprietors themselves of Madras or Bombay, or by the village communities of Northern India; and I apprehend that other promoters of mining enterprise would be likely to meet with considerable obstacles from intricacies of tenure and the difficulty of dealing with numerous small landholders. I consider, therefore, that care should be taken to reserve all State's rights to minerals which still exist. And I am of opinion, especially with reference to the views of the Madras Government mentioned in paragraphs 3 and 6 of your letter, that, in the absence of any distinct judicial precedent or proof of established law or practice, such rights should be presumed still to exist throughout India. I take it that the notion that payment of an assessment based on the agricultural value of land, and intended to cover the right of cultivation, conveys property in minerals below the surface of the soil is essentially a modern one, and would never have occurred to the Native Governments to which our own succeeded. I approve therefore of the instructions you propose (paragraph 6 of your letter) to give to the Government of Madras on this subject. With regard to the other provinces, you state that no general rule, universally applicable, can be laid down, either that minerals found in proprietary lands belong to the State, or that they do not so belong. But, speaking generally, in the North West Provinces it was ruled, but not, as it appears, by judicial authority, that when the surface is private property, the ownership extends, in default of special reservations, to what is below the surface. The precise degree of authority possessed by this ruling should, however, receive further consideration. In the Central Provinces and Berar the full right of Government to minerals has been reserved at settlement, while in the Punjab and Ajmere, and, it may be added, in the Bombay Presidency,\* it has been declared by legislation that mines are the property of Government. You conclude therefore that, whenever the question as to the right of

\* Section 69 of the New Land Revenue Code.

the State to minerals found in proprietary lands actually arises, it will have to be answered for that locality in accordance with practice and precedent. But that where the nature and extent of proprietary rights are still unsettled, and where custom and practice regarding mines has not been established, opportunity should be taken to declare by legislation that mines are State property. With these views I fully concur.

5. With regard to the third question, you consider that where proprietors of lands temporarily settled are held to be the owners of the minerals they may contain, such mineral resources may be taken into account for assessment on resettlement. In this view I concur; but request that care may be taken not to confer proprietary rights in minerals by including them among assessable assets where such ownership has not been proved previously to exist.

6. Upon the second point discussed in your letter,—the modification of the Waste-Land Rules suggested by the Government of Madras,—I agree with you that, in future, sales and leases of waste lands for agricultural purposes should be generally made subject to reservation of the full right of the State in mines and minerals, and of right of access and other reasonable conveniences for working them on behalf of Government or the assignees of Government. I approve the circular you have issued on this subject, and sanction the necessary modification of the Waste-Land Rules.

7. Regarding the last subject discussed in your letter,—the terms on which applications to mine in Government waste land in Wynand and similar auriferous tracts shall now be granted,—you point out that, if gold should be largely produced in India, the effect on exchanges would be highly beneficial, and that it is consequently of great importance that the gold sources in India should be worked to the best advantage. You consider therefore that the mining terms granted by Government should be as liberal as possible without encouraging undue speculation, and you deem it of importance thus to attract capital to the Wynand gold-fields. You have ascertained that Australian experience is that the largest indirect advantage to the State is secured by making mining leases simple and liberal, on the one condition that a certain quantity of labour is employed per acre on *bona fide* mining operations. You propose therefore to authorise the Government of Madras to grant gold-mining leases of Government lands, in lots of from 1 to 30 acres, for terms of 10 or 20 years, at a rent of Rs. 5 per acre, on condition that not less than five labourers per acre are regularly employed on *bona fide* mining operations, in such manner as Government may approve. Power will be given to the Government of Madras to enforce fulfilment of these conditions, and the leases are to be renewable at the expiration of the original period on such terms as the Madras Government may then settle. You thus leave to the Government of Madras wide discretion with reference to the term

and area of each lease, and you do not propose for the present to levy any royalty or other tax on the industry.

8. These arrangements appear to me to be judicious, and I approve of them. With reference, however, to the last sentence of the preceding paragraph, and also to the last clause of paragraph 7 of your letter, I am of opinion that it should be made clear that for the term of leases now granted there will be no liability to any future royalty or other tax in addition to the rent, with the exception of any taxation which may hereafter be found necessary to provide, at the expense of mining communities,—the expenses of special police, communications, water-supply, sanitation, or other similar administrative arrangements needful for their own protection or convenience.

9. Finally, I have to observe that the arrangements you now propose appear to refer to mining operations in Government waste lands only. Should, however, it be decided that mineral rights in any owned or occupied lands in Madras are vested in Government, and should gold be discovered in any such lands, I presume that, with due regard to the rights of the cultivating proprietors, mining privileges will be granted on terms similar to those now approved for Government lands.

From the Officiating Secretary to the Government of India, to all Local Governments and Administrations,—No. 1240—48 (Mineral), dated Simla, the 15th May 1880.

In continuation of my Circular No. 2-11—19, dated the 1st September 1879, I am desired to forward copy of a despatch No. 35, dated 25th March 1880, from the Secretary of State for India, regarding rights of Government to minerals in this country. The policy of the Government of India, as already announced, is generally approved, subject to certain additions to be noticed below.

2. The most important declaration contained in the despatch is that expressed in the fourth paragraph. Hereafter, except in permanently-settled estates, it will be presumed throughout India that, in the absence of any distinct judicial precedent or proof of established usage, the State has a right to minerals.

3. Attention is invited to paragraph 2 of the despatch, under which the ruling that grantees of waste lands, whether or not the grants expressly comprise all products above and below the surface, are, in the absence of provision to the contrary, entitled to mines of gold and silver found thereunder, is limited to grantees of waste land "in fee simple," made in accordance with the rules framed upon the instructions given in Sir C. Wood's despatch No. 14 of 1862. Should any question hereafter arise in respect to grants of waste land made on other terms, Local Governments and Administrations will have to consider, in each class of cases, what is the specific effect of the form of grant regulating them as touching rights to minerals.

The general ruling above quoted must be held not to apply to ordinary cultivating leases made in the course of settlement operations, or in the routine of district revenue work.

4. The direction in paragraph 5 of the despatch, to avoid conferring proprietary rights in minerals by including them amongst the assessable assets where such ownership has not been previously proved to exist, will be duly observed in making temporary settlements. The view of the Government of India, that where proprietors of temporarily-settled lands have been judicially held to be owners of minerals contained therein such mineral resources may be taken into account for assessment on resettlement, has been accepted by the Secretary of State. But, as explained in paragraph 2 above, in the absence of a judicial decision, the presumption will be that such landholders are not owners of the minerals underneath the surface of their lands.

5. With reference to paragraph 6 of the despatch, I am to request that the rules regarding the sale and lease of waste lands for agricultural purposes in force in

may be modified, so far as may be necessary, to make leases and sales under them subject to reservation of the full right of the State in mines and minerals, and of right of access and other reasonable conveniences for working them on behalf of Government or the assignees of Government. Full publication should be given to the modifications of rule made under these instructions; and copies of such orders as may be passed by the

on the matter should be forwarded to this Department for information.

#### APPENDIX M.

##### Form of Proclamation.

(Under Section 165 of Bombay Act V. of 1879.)

Whereas the property of \_\_\_\_\_ hereinunder specified has been attached on account of the Government assessment Rs. \_\_\_\_\_ due by the said \_\_\_\_\_; and whereas it is necessary to recover the said amount by sale of the said property, together with all lawful charges and expenses resulting from the said attachment and sale:

Notice is hereby given that on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 188 \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock A.M.,

A.B.,

the

Mámlatdár of  
appointed), will, at  
Táluka

(or other person

in

in this District, sell by

auction to the highest bidder and without reserve, the right, title and interest of the said \_\_\_\_\_ in the property hereinunder specified, and every power of disposing of the

same or any of them or of the profits arising therefrom which the said \_\_\_\_\_ may now consistently with the law exercise for his own benefit.

### *Moveable Property.*

1	2	3	4	5	6
Lot No.	Number and description of articles.	Where attached.	Where now placed.	When to be viewed.	Whether the sale is subject to confirmation or not.

*Immoveable Property.*

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Lot No.	Description of Lot, including local situation, supposed or estimated rent or annual value, and, if leased, for how long, on what terms, and to whom.	Survey number, Municipal number and other fiscal designation.	Government Revenue, including any Local Cess, any other known fiscal charge resting on the Lot.	Present occupant.	(Here enter any other particulars the Collector may see fit.)			

*N.B.*—No guarantee is given of the title of the said or interest claimed by third parties.

or of the validity of any of the rights, charges

Collector.



## APPENDIX N.

## Partition of Estates by the Collector.

1. In the division of an estate ordered by the decree of a Civil Court paying land revenue to Government, the Collector is bound by the rules laid down in section 113 of the Land Revenue Code whenever they are applicable. If a Court assigns rights in specified areas in survey numbers of less extent than the minima prescribed under section 98 of the Code, these rights cannot be registered in the Government accounts, or be otherwise recognized by Government. (*G. R. 7052 of 23rd November 1881.*)

2. When the division or separation of a share of an undivided estate paying revenue to Government is made by the Collector, under the orders of a Civil Court, in accordance with the provisions of section 265 of the Code of Civil Procedure, 1877, the following fees shall be levied (in addition to those prescribed at page 129 of the High Court Circular Book) as remuneration for travelling expenses *bonâ fide* incurred by subordinates in the Revenue establishment employed on such division or separation of estates:—

*For Clerks and Karkuns of Collectors, for each day  
actually on tour.*

Rate of salary per mensem.	Europeans and Eurasians.	Natives.
	Not exceeding	
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
On Rs. 100 and upwards .....	1 7 0	1 4 0
On Rs. 75 to less than Rs. 100 .....	1 1 0	0 14 0
More than Rs. 50 to less than Rs. 75 .....	0 13 0	0 10 0
On Rs. 30 to Rs. 50 .....	0 10 0	0 8 0
Less than Rs. 30 .....	0 8 0	0 6 0

*For Mamltdárs' Karkuns.*

	Not exceeding	
	Rs. a. p.	
On Rs. 30 and upwards... ..	0 7 0	
On less than Rs. 30 ... ..	0 6 0	

*For Peons.*

Not to exceed one anna per diem.

(*Bombay Government Gazette of 1876, p. 255.*)

## APPENDIX O.

No. 4213.

## REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

*Bombay Castle, 21st July 1881.*

In exercise of the powers given by Section 55 of Bombay Act V. of 1879, the Governor in Council authorizes the Commissioner in Sind to fix rates for the use by landholders and others of water the right to which vests in Government, for the cultivation of rice on any land not assessed and entered in the Survey Registers as rice land.

2. The amount of such rate shall be subject to the approval of Government, and shall, after sanction, be notified in the office of the Mukhtyárkár of the táluka in which the land on account of which the rate is levied is situated.

3. Any person desiring to grow rice in land not assessed as rice land shall make an application in writing to the Mukhtyárkár or other officer duly authorized to receive such application, for permission to make use of the supply of water needful for growing rice, stating if he requires it for one year only or permanently ; and if any person cultivates rice in such land without such permission he shall be charged with double the rate he would otherwise have been required to pay had he applied for and obtained permission.

4. All persons who now hold or may hereafter apply to take up lands assessed and recorded in the Survey Registers as rice lands, shall, as soon as possible after the publication of these Rules or on application to take up such lands, be tendered a list of such rice lands then being or about to be in their occupation, and rice shall not be grown on any number not included in such lists except on payment of the extra rate.